

REMARKS

Claims 2-35 are pending in the present patent application. Applicant is submitting new claims 2-35 and canceling claim 1. Applicant submits that new claims 2-35 are fully supported by the specification, figures and claims as originally filed, and that no new matter has been introduced. Applicant respectfully requests examination and consideration of pending claims 2-35.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 14, 2002.

Christine Mills 3-14-02  
Signature: Christine Mills Date



CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (CANCELLED) A method for manipulating objects displayed on a display screen comprising the steps of:

providing a first screen object with a multiband region of influence comprising a plurality of bands for invoking operations related to manipulating screen objects displayed on said display screen.

2. (NEW) A method for manipulating screen objects on a display screen comprising:

providing a first screen object with a plurality of regions of influence and a plurality of reference data;

providing a screen pointer for pointing and moving a second screen object;

moving said second screen object to within a first region of said plurality of regions of influence;

invoking a first action within said first region when said screen pointer crosses a first reference datum of said plurality of reference data;

moving said second screen object to within a second region of said plurality of regions of influence;

invoking a second action within said second region when said screen pointer crosses a second reference datum of said plurality of reference data;

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moving said second screen objects to within said first region of said plurality of regions of influence from said second region; and

invoking a third action within said first region when said screen pointer crosses a thord reference datum of said plurality of reference data.

3. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said first screen object further comprises an icon image representation of a first computer program.

4. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said first screen object further comprises an icon image representation of a first data file.

5. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said second screen object further comprises an icon image representation of a second computer program.

6. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said second screen object further comprises an icon image representation of a second data file.

7. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said screen pointer further comprises an image icon controlled by a computer pointing device.

8. (NEW) The method in claim 7 wherein said computer pointing device further comprises a computer mouse.

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9. (NEW) The method in claim 7 wherein said computer pointing device further comprises a touch screen.

10. (NEW) The method in claim 7 wherein said computer pointing device further comprises an optical pen.

11. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said a plurality of regions of influence further comprises a plurality of concentric bands of screen areas.

12. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said plurality of regions of influence further comprises a plurality of juxtaposed screen areas.

13. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said plurality of regions of influence further comprises a plurality of overlapping screen areas.

14. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said plurality of reference data further comprises a plurality of screen locations.

15. (NEW) The method in claim 14 wherein said plurality of screen locations further comprise at least one pixel.

16. (NEW) The method in claim 14 wherein said plurality of screen locations further comprise a screen area.

17. (NEW) The method in claim 14 wherein said plurality of screen locations further comprise a line.

18. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said providing a first screen object with a plurality of regions of influence and a plurality of reference data

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further comprises associating at least one of said plurality of reference data with at least one of said plurality of regions of influence.

19. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said invoking said first action further comprising aligning said second screen object with said first screen object.

20. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said invoking said first action further comprises altering the appearance of at least one of said first screen object and said second screen object.

21. (NEW) The method in claim 20 wherein said altering the appearance of said at least one of said first screen object and said second screen object further comprising altering the color of said at least of said first screen object and said second screen object.

22. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said first action further comprises said first action having one of a plurality of action states.

23. (NEW) The method in claim 22 wherein said plurality of action states further comprise said plurality of action states having and on and an off state.

24. (NEW) The method in claim 22 wherein said plurality of action states further comprising storing said plurality of action states in a lookup table.

25. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said invoking said first action further comprises determining whether said moving said screen pointer necessitates said invoking said first action.

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26. (NEW) The method in claim 25 wherein said determining further comprises determining not to invoke said action.

27. (NEW) The method in claim 2 wherein said invoking said first action further comprises resizing said first screen object.

28. (NEW) A computer program product comprising:  
a computer usable medium comprising computer readable code embodied therein for manipulating screen objects on a display screen, said computer program product configured to:

provide a first screen object with a plurality of regions of influence and a plurality of reference data;

provide a screen pointer for pointing and moving a second screen object;

move said second screen object to within a first region of said plurality of regions of influence;

invoke a first action within said first region when said screen pointer crosses a first reference datum of said plurality of reference data;

move said second screen object to within a second region of said plurality of regions of influence;

invoke a second action within said second region when said screen pointer crosses a second reference datum of said plurality of reference data;

move said second screen objects to within said first region of said plurality of regions of influence from said second region; and

invoke a third action within said first region when said screen pointer crosses a thord reference datum of said plurality of reference data.

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29. (NEW) The computer program product in claim 28 wherein said computer program product configured to provide a first screen object with a plurality of regions of influence and a plurality of reference data further comprises computer program product configured to associate at least one of said plurality of reference data with at least one of said plurality of regions of influence.

30. (NEW) The computer program product in claim 28 wherein said computer program product configured to invoke said first action further comprises computer program product configured to align said second screen object with said first screen object.

31. (NEW) The computer program product in claim 28 wherein said computer program product configured to invoke said first action further comprises computer program product configured to alter the appearance of at least one of said first screen object and said second screen object.

32. (NEW) The computer program product in claim 31 wherein said computer program product configured to alter the appearance of said at least one of said first screen object and said second screen object further comprising computer program product configured to alter the color of said at least of said first screen object and said second screen object.

33. (NEW) The computer program product in claim 28 wherein said computer program product configured to invoke said first action further comprises computer program product configured to determine whether to invoke said said first action.

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34. (NEW) The computer program product in claim 33 wherein said computer program product configured to determine whether to invoke said action further comprises computer program product configured to determine not to invoke said action.

35. (NEW) The computer program product in claim 28 wherein said computer program product configured to invoke said first action further comprises computer program product configured to resize said first screen object.